

# Staff Update



**Darren Green** joined the Institute of Aquaculture in October 2007 as a lecturer in aquatic health modelling, having previously been employed as a post-doctoral researcher at the University of Edinburgh, and

more recently at the University of Oxford. He is working in collaboration with Fisheries Research Services at Aberdeen looking at the network of live fish movements in Scotland. Traditional models of disease spread tend to be based on simplistic assumptions as to how individuals (people, fish, etc.) contact each other, which may be appropriate when considering say, a pond of fish or a field of cattle, but which break down when considering larger or countrywide scales. In a second project, he is investigating the epidemiology of pancreas disease in Atlantic salmon *Salmo salar*. This disease is currently a leading cause of mortality in the industry, but relatively little is known of its epidemiology or patterns of virulence.

**Charlie McGurk**

left the Institute in December 2007 to start a new job at Skretting Aquaculture Research Centre, Stavanger, Norway as a researcher in Fish Health, with a global R&D and technical support role. His family will move out in summer after more than seven years in Stirling. Charlie remains a keen scuba diver and is looking forward to enjoying Norway's pristine (but icy cold!) waters.



**Gemma Woodford**

began work at the Institute in August 2007 as a trainee technician, and attends Forth Valley College by day release on a Modern Apprenticeship scheme. Gemma is a great asset to the

disease diagnostic group where she provides valuable assistance staff in the Histology, Bacteriology and Virology laboratories.



**Mike Bell** has officially retired from his joint posts at the Institute as Research Fellow and Safety Officer to enjoy his outdoor hobbies, however he will continue to be involved in some projects as the opportunity arises.

**Maureen Menzies**

started in parasitology in 1987 and was there until Sept 1997. She moved at that time to Histology and left to retire in July 2007. Maureen said she enjoyed her time in the parasitology and found it both challenging and rewarding. She especially enjoyed working with the students and still has a friendship with many of them after all these years. Although the work in histology was more routine in nature she felt part of a well run and organised laboratory providing a specialised service. She has happy memories of her years at the Institute and of working with so many talented people from many different parts of the world.



**Alicia McGrandles** was appointed in March 2008 as our new Quality Assurance Officer for GLP studies within the Institute of Aquaculture. Alicia will also assist in the management of work carried out to ISO 17025 and provide technical support for the DNA sequencing facility.

**Janina Costa**

is a well-known figure around the Institute, having completed her PhD here and subsequently worked with the disease group. She left to work with a Spanish consultancy group based in Tenerife (sunshine island life must be hard!), where she is leading the establishment of a disease laboratory.



Former staff and students are always welcome to share updates with our readers. To post an update e-mail Anton on [aj1@stir.ac.uk](mailto:aj1@stir.ac.uk)



**James Dick** (Nutrition, centre back row behind the Principal) and **Keith Ranson** (Tropical Aquarium, second from right in back row, next to James) receiving their recognition of 25 years service to the University.